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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A compound comprising the formula:

 E_{1-4} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, C_{1-6} alkoxy, phenoxy, C_{1-6} heteroalkoxy,

$$= \begin{bmatrix} R_3 \\ C \\ R_4 \end{bmatrix}_{d1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_2]_{g1} - \begin{bmatrix} Y_2 \\ C \end{bmatrix}_{f1} \begin{bmatrix} R_5 \\ C \\ R_8 \end{bmatrix}_{g1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_3]_{h1} - \begin{bmatrix} R_7 \\ C \\ R_8 \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_4]_{l1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} R_9 \\ C \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} Y_3 \\ C \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} Y_3 \\ C \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ M_8 \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} - \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1} \\ M_8 \end{bmatrix}_{l1} = \begin{bmatrix} M_8]_{m1}$$

$$\underline{\text{and or}} \quad \frac{\text{Re}}{\left(\begin{matrix} R_{3} \\ R_{4} \end{matrix}\right)_{d2}} \left[\begin{matrix} M_{2} \end{bmatrix}_{e2} \left\{\begin{matrix} Y_{2} \\ C \end{matrix}\right]_{12} \left[\begin{matrix} R_{5} \\ C \end{matrix}\right]_{g2} \left\{\begin{matrix} R_{5} \\ C \end{matrix}\right]_{g2} \left\{\begin{matrix} R_{7} \\ C \end{matrix}\right]_{12} \left[\begin{matrix} M_{4} \end{bmatrix}_{12} \right\}_{e2} \left[\begin{matrix} R_{8} \\ C \end{matrix}\right]_{12} \left[\begin{matrix} M_{6} \end{bmatrix}_{m2} - \begin{matrix} Y_{3} \\ C \end{matrix}\right]_{12}$$

and at least one of E₁₋₄ includes a B moiety;

B is a leaving group, OH, a residue of a hydroxyl-containing moiety, a residue of an amine-containing moiety or

Es

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wherein E₅ is independently selected from the same group which defines E₁₋₄;

$$J_1 \text{ is } \begin{matrix} E_{1a} \\ -C_{-}E_{2a}, \\ E_{3a} \end{matrix}$$

 E_{1a-3a} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, C_{1-6} alkoxy, phenoxy, C_{1-6} heteroalkoxy,

$$\underbrace{ \text{and er} } \qquad \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} R_{3b} \\ C \\ R_{4b} \end{bmatrix}_{d4}}_{d4} \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} Y_{2b} \\ C \\ R_{6B} \end{bmatrix}_{04}}_{I4} \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} R_{5b} \\ C \\ R_{3b} \end{bmatrix}_{I4}}_{I4} \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} R_{9b} \\ C \\ R_{10b} \end{bmatrix}_{I4}}_{I4} \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} R_{9b} \\ R_{10b} \end{bmatrix}_{I4}}_{I4} \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} R_{10b} \\ R_{10b} \end{bmatrix}_{I4}$$

wherein B_1 is a leaving group, OH, a residue of a hydroxyl-containing moiety or a residue of an amine-containing moiety or E_6

wherein E6 is independently selected from the same group which defines E1.4;

$$J_2$$
 is $-\stackrel{\mathsf{E}_{1b}}{\overset{\mathsf{C}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{2b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}}{\overset{\mathsf{E}_{3b}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}$

wherein E_{1b-3b} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, C_{1-6} alkoxy, phenoxy, C_{1-6} heteroalkoxy,

$$\frac{\begin{bmatrix} R_{3c} \\ C \\ R_{4c} \end{bmatrix}_{d5}}{\begin{bmatrix} M_{2c}]_{e5} - \begin{bmatrix} Y_{2c} \\ C \\ R_{9c} \end{bmatrix}_{l5}} \begin{bmatrix} R_{5c} \\ R_{9c} \\ R_{9c} \end{bmatrix}_{l5} \begin{bmatrix} R_{9c} \\ R_{10c} \\ R_{10c} \end{bmatrix}_{l5} \begin{bmatrix} R_{9c} \\ R_{10c} \end{bmatrix}_{l5} \begin{bmatrix} M_{5c}]_{m5} - \frac{Y_{3c}}{C - R_{2c}} \\ \frac{R_{9c}}{R_{10c}} \end{bmatrix}_{l5} \begin{bmatrix} R_{9c} \\ R_{10c} \end{bmatrix}_{l5} \begin{bmatrix} R_{10c} \\ R_{10c} \end{bmatrix}_{l5} \begin{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \text{or} & \begin{bmatrix} R_{3d} \\ C \\ R_{4d} \end{bmatrix}_{d8} & [M_{2d}]_{e8} & [\overset{Y}{C}^{2d}]_{f8} \begin{bmatrix} R_{5d} \\ C \\ R_{8d} \end{bmatrix}_{96} & [M_{3d}]_{h6} & [\overset{R}{C}^{7d}]_{f6} \begin{bmatrix} R_{7d} \\ C \\ R_{8d} \end{bmatrix}_{f6} & [M_{4d}]_{j6} & [\overset{R}{C}^{9d}]_{f8} & \overset{Y}{C}^{3d} \\ \overset{R}{C}^{10d} & \overset{R}{C}^{10d} \end{bmatrix}_{f8} \\ \end{array}$$

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wherein B₂ is a leaving group, OH, a residue of a hydroxyl-containing moiety or a residue of an amine-containing moiety;

G is a polymeric residue;

 $Y_{1-3},\,Y_{2a-d}$ and Y_{3a-d} are each independently O, S or NR_{11a}

 $M_{1-4},\,M_{2a-2d},\,M_{3a-3d},$ and M_{4a-4d} are each independently O, S or $NR_{11b};$

M₅ and M_{5u-d} are each independently X or Q,

wherein X is an electron withdrawing group and Q is a moiety containing a free electron pair positioned three to six atoms from $C(=Y_3)$ or $C(=Y_{3n-d})$;

 R_{1-10} , R_{1a-11a} , R_{1b-11b} , R_{1c-10c} and R_{1d-10d} are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, C_{1-6} alkoxy, phenoxy and C_{1-6} heteroalkoxy; and

a, b, c, dl-d6, el-e6, fl-f6, gl-g6, hl-h6, il-i6, jl-j6, kl-k6, ll-l6, ml-m6 are each independently zero or a positive integer: and

i1-i6, j1-j6 and k1-k6 are each independently selected positive integers.

2. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein G further comprises a capping group A, which is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, CO_2H , C_{1-6} alkyl moieties, and

wherein a, b, c, R₁₋₂, M₁, Y₁, E₄ and J are the same as set forth in claim 1.

3. (currently amended) A compound of claim 2, of the formula:

- 4. (currently amended) The compound of claim 1, where a, b, c, dl- $d\delta$, el- $e\delta$, fl- $f\delta$, gl- $g\delta$, hl- $h\delta$, il- $i\delta$, jl- $j\delta$; kl- $k\delta$, ll- $l\delta$, and ml- $m\delta$ are independently zero, one or two: and il- $i\delta$, jl- $j\delta$, and kl- $k\delta$ are independently one or two.
- 5. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein R_1 and R_2 are both H, a and c are one, Y_1 is O and both E_1 and E_4 are H.
 - 6. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein G is polyalkylene oxide residue.
 - 7. (original) The compound of claim 6, wherein G is a polyethylene glycol residue.
- 8. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein G is -O-(CH₂CH₂O)_x or -O-(CH(CH₃)CH₂O)_x,

wherein x is the degree of polymerization.

- 9. (currently amended) The compound of claim 8, wherein G is -O-(CH₂CH₂O)_x and x is a positive integer so that the weight average molecular weight is at least about 20,000 daltons.
- 10. (currently amended) The compound of claim 9, wherein G has a weight average molecular weight of from about 20,000 to about 100,000 daltons.
- 11. (currently amended) The compound of claim 10, wherein G has a weight average molecular weight of from about 25,000 to about 60,000 daltons.

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- 12. (original) The compound of claim 1, wherein B is a residue of an amine -containing moiety.
 - 13. (original) The compound of claim 12, wherein said amine-containing moiety is

wherein

 R_{12-13} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, halo, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls;

 R_{14-18} are independently selected from alkoxy, e.g. OR_{19} or, in the alternative, H, OH, N₃, NHR₂₀, NO₂ or CN, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, where R_{19-20} are independently selected from the same group which defines R_{12-13} .

14. (original) A compound of claim 3, selected from the group consisting of:

wherein Z is one of:

$$-NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-B} , NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-B}$$

$$-NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-CH_2} - CH_2 - NH - C_{-B} , -NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-B} ,$$

$$-NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-CH_2} - C_{-B} , -NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-CH_2} - C_{-B} ,$$

$$-NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-CH_2} - C_{-B} , -NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-CH_2} - C_{-B} ,$$

$$S$$
and
$$-NH - (CH_2 - CH_2 - O)_2 C_{-CH_2} - C_{-CH_2$$

15. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a polymeric transport system, comprising

a) reacting compound of the formula:

$$B_{3}[M_{3}]_{h_{1}} = \begin{bmatrix} R_{7} \\ C \\ R_{8} \end{bmatrix}_{i_{1}} \begin{bmatrix} M_{4}]_{j_{1}} \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{i_{1}} \begin{bmatrix} R_{9} \\ C \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{i_{1}} \begin{bmatrix} M_{5}]_{m_{1}} & C \\ C \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{i_{1}}$$

wherein

B is a residue of a biologically active amine-containing moiety or a hydroxyl-containing moiety;

B₃ is a cleavable protecting group;

Y₃ is O, S, or NR_{11a};

M₃ and M₄ are independently O, S, or NR_{11b};

M₅ is X or Q;

wherein X is an electron withdrawing group and Q is a moiety containing a free electron pair positioned three to six atoms from $C(=Y_3)$;

 R_{7-10} and R_{11a-b} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls and substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls;

h1-m1 h1, i1, j1, l1 and m1 are each independently zero or a positive integer;

- kl is a positive integer;
- b) cleaving the cleavable protecting group B3; and
- c) reacting the resultant compound with a compound of the formula

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} R_1 \\ C \\ R_2 \end{bmatrix}_A - [M_1]_b + \begin{bmatrix} Y_1 \\ C \end{bmatrix}_C N \begin{bmatrix} E'_4 \\ J' \end{bmatrix}$$

wherein

$$J' \ is \ -\frac{E'_1}{C} - E'_2 \ , \ -\frac{R_3}{C} |_{R_4} |_{d_1} |_{d_1} |_{d_1} |_{R_6} |_{g_1} |_{g_1} |_{g_1} |_{g_1} |_{g_1} |_{g_2} |_{g_1} |_{g_2} |_{g_$$

E'₁₋₄ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, C_{1-6} alkoxy, phenoxy, C_{1-6} heteroalkoxy,

wherein

B₄ is a leaving group;

G is a polymer residue;

Y₁₋₂ are independently O, S, or NR_{11a};

M₁₋₂ are independently O, S, or NR_{11b}

 R_{1-6} , R_9 and R_{10} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls and substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls;

 a, b, c, d_1-g_1 and d_2-g_2 are each independently zero or a positive integer, whereby a polymeric conjugate is formed.

16. (Currently amended) A method of preparing a polymeric transport system, comprising: reacting a biologically active moiety containing an unprotected amino or hydroxyl group with polymeric residue containing a terminal moiety of the formula:

$$- \underbrace{\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} R_{1} \\ C \\ R_{8} \end{bmatrix}_{i1}^{R_{1}} - \begin{bmatrix} M_{4} \end{bmatrix}_{j1} \right\}_{k1}}_{k1} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} R_{9} \\ C \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}_{i1}}_{k2} - \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} M_{5} \end{bmatrix}_{im1}}_{i1} - \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} Y_{3} \\ C \\ R_{10} \end{bmatrix}}_{i1}$$

wherein:

Y₃ is O, S, or NR_{11a};

R₇₋₁₀ and NR_{11a} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₆ alkyls, C₃₋₁₂ branched alkyls, C₃₋₈ cycloalkyls, C₁₋₆ substituted alkyls, C₃₋₈ substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C₁₋₆ heteroalkyls and substituted C₁₋₆ heteroalkyls; M₄₋₅ are independently O, S, or NR_{11b}.

 R_{110} and R_{110} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyls, C_{3-12} branched alkyls, C_{3-8} cycloalkyls, C_{1-6} substituted alkyls, C_{3-8} substituted cycloalkyls, aryls, substituted aryls, aralkyls, C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, substituted C_{1-6} heteroalkyls, C_{1-6} alkoxy, phenoxy and C_{1-6} heteroalkoxy;

B₅ is a leaving group capable of reacting with an unprotected amino or hydroxyl group of a biologically active moiety; and

i! m! i!, i!, i! and m! are each independently zero or a positive integer, and k! is a positive integer;
 whereby a polymeric conjugate is formed.

- 17. (original) A method of treatment, comprising: administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 1, wherein B is a residue of a biologically active moiety.
- 18. (original) A method of treatment, comprising: administering to a mammal in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of claim 3, wherein B is a residue of a biologically active moiety.